News release

Perfect Partners

8 October 2004

There was more good news for the Met Office last night, as Costain-Skanska picked up a prestigious award at the *Contract Journal* Construction Industry awards.

In recognition of the outstanding success of the Met Office's move to new headquarters in Exeter, the partnership won the Public Private Partnership of the Year Award. Costain-Skanska beat off opposition from Alfred McAlpine, Catalyst and HBG Projects.

The entire project to build the new Met Office took four years, with the design and construction phase completed in just over two; a remarkable achievement for an extremely complex operation. Innovation was a feature of the partnership: weekend site visits for Met Office staff and a regular newsletter jointly issued to neighbouring businesses and residents all helped to seal the relationship.

Alan Douglas, Director of Relocation for the Met Office said, "In order to achieve our targets it was vital for us to establish an effective relationship with the construction team. That the Met Office moved on-time and within budget, is a testament to the excellent partnership forged with Costain-Skanska. This award is a fine recognition of our joint success."

Notes:
The *Contract Journal* Construction Industry Awards are held annually.

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